

Norris, James A.

President, Central Liberal-Conservative Association of Toronto

Sept. 27, 1915
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Extracted from XXX

September 27th, 1915

James A. Norris, Esq.,

President,

Central Liberal-Conservative Association of Toronto.

Dear Mr. Norris:

I regret very much that being confined to bed to-day by my physician's orders I shall be unable to be present to-night at the meeting in the Arena. It is a great disappointment to me not to be able to take part personally in the demonstration to the Premier on his return from Britain and the Continent and to miss the privilege of hearing his speech.

I am greatly disappointed also at not being able to accept the honour that you have done me in asking me to speak on this occasion for I should like to have expressed in public my appreciation along with that of other Canadians of the kindly thought of Sir Robert Borden in conveying good cheer on behalf of the people of the Dominion to our soldiers who are fighting for us at the front, or who are lying wounded in the Hospitals, or who are preparing to take their places in the firing line. Also I should like to have referred to the admiration with which I read the Premier's speeches, so dignified as they were and well-balanced in their judgment. It would have been a pleasure to have joined with others in congratulations on the marked honours that were conferred upon him by the Cities of London and Bristol, and by the President of the French, and through him on this Dominion, and above all the honour, most signal and most momentous, of being asked to be present at the meeting of the Imperial Cabinet. This last event seems to me to be perhaps the beginning of one of our most important imperial constitutional developments.

May I ask you to be kind enough to read this letter to-night and express my personal regrets and congratulations to Sir Robert Borden?

Yours sincerely,

President of the
University of Toronto.